



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Governmental & Legislative  
Affairs Director

May 2, 2017

The Honorable Paul Cook  
United States House of Representatives  
1222 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: H.R. 497- The Santa Ana River Wash Plan Exchange Act – SUPPORT

Dear Representative Cook:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support H.R. 497, *the Santa Ana River Wash Plan Land Exchange Act*, which would authorize the transfer of land between the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District.

The exchange of land would facilitate the completion of the 4,500-acre Upper Santa Ana Wash Land Management and Habitat Conservation Plan (Wash Plan), an ambitious and balanced plan that will allow for the continued mining of aggregate, essential to the local economy, while protecting vital habitat for a number of sensitive species, expanding opportunities for groundwater recharge, and providing for future recreational trails that will be part of regional network.

This has been a truly collaborative effort, with participants including the County of San Bernardino, cities, water districts, the mining industry, and state and federal resource agencies.

The land exchange and the Wash Plan will benefit the economy, the environment, and the quality of life of our residents.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support H.R. 497. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or [jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov).

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD  
First District Supervisor  
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Congressional Delegation

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